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CHINESE

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中 民 求
華 國 救

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA
25 EAST 22d STREET, NEW YORK CITY

OWE NO MAN ANYTHING SAVE TO LOVE THY NEIGHBOR

求 IS pronounced in Amoy *kiu*, sounding much like the name of our letter Q, and means "plea." It gives the name to this leaflet, which might have been called: China's Plea. The last of the characters on the first page, **救** has a similar sound but means "save." The first four characters, **中華民國** are the name of China, and the whole sentence means: The Chinese Republic's plea for saving.

TO China we owe our knowledge of china and silk, yet how seldom we think of this as we sit at table or admire a beautiful costume. We are indebted to China also for tea, and the very form of that word shows that the first tea known to the world outside of China came from Amoy. But China has not given to the world only such material things. China has given us a virile, prolific people of fine character and strong principle, of virtues that show even through their coat of ignorant heathenism. The world is in debt to China for an example of maintained international peace—a debt that cannot now be paid by teaching her youth military tactics.

Jesus Christ has given us a trust that makes us debtors to China. Beyond all the things mentioned above—and with a little thought anyone might extend

that list—we are indebted to China because the Lord has given us their most precious legacy to hold in trust and deliver to them. The time has come. He has prepared the nation and they wait for us, His stewards, to give them that which we hold most valuable of all our possessions and is equally precious to them. He bade His disciples: Go ye, and preach this gospel even to the Chinese. Verily we are their debtors.

In the economy of church administration we have attained such a degree of co-operation that no one man has to go to all the world, but while he prays for the whole he may arrange with his neighbors a division of work that will increase efficiency in administering our great trust. So it has come about that the Reformed Church in America has acknowledged its responsibility for delivering the gospel of Jesus Christ to China, India, Japan, Arabia, and needy communities in America. And there has been a further division so that, to speak only of China, our present responsibility is not the overwhelmingly numerous four hundred millions, but the people of a certain distinctly limited region in the southern part of Fukien Province branching out in fan shape from the port of Amoy: the territory occupied by our

I AM A DEBTOR. I AM READY TO PREACH THE GOSPEL

Amoy Mission. As the declaration of our intention to fulfill our stewardship of China's inheritance in the gospel to the people of the Amoy region has been heard by the rest of the great Church of Christ it passes them by and these people look to us alone for the gospel that the Messiah died to give them.

The miracles that our Lord has worked following the preaching and teaching of our missionaries in Amoy show His approval. Here is an illustration. A young Chinaman went from his country home into the city of Amoy and worked his way to the ownership of a business. He became a Christian. In China it is an inexplicable thing if a father does not live in the hope that his sons may carry on his business and maintain his firm name. This man had a son, and he gave him to the Lord from infancy, training him to be a preacher. The second son came and seemed brighter than the first. It seemed wrong to have given second-best to the Lord, but he would not take back what he had already given Him, so he gave his second son too. A third son came and was so promising that he too was given to the Lord's work. A fourth came, and the parents would not be denied the joy of giving their all to the Lord. Their heathen neighbors thought they must be crazy to make no provision for the carrying on of their growing business under their spotless name after their death, but they walk joyfully in the way of the Lord. Once this man was told, when the Mission was crying for more men from America, that there was a man ready to come, but there was no money in America to pay his expenses out. This Christian Chinaman at once sent \$600 to fetch him, and asked that no one ever tell that he had given it.

We are honest. Having acknowledged our debt to Christ and China we are trying to pay it. Though some have not yet acknowledged their debt, and many Chinese have passed on without the knowledge of the Gospel, yet much has been done. There are now eight ordained men, three physicians, one teacher and twenty women (eight of them wives) in our Amoy Mission. The work of these and their predecessors has been blessed of God in the establishment of a Chinese church that organized its first Classis in 1862. Our missionaries work in this Synod of South Fukien in fifteen churches which maintain forty-nine regular preaching places and have a membership of 1833 with 1186 baptized non-communicants. They have four boarding schools for boys with 303 scholars, and five for girls with 374 scholars. In 25 day schools they have 881 pupils, and they also share in a union theological seminary. In three hospitals they will probably treat 20,000 patients this year, and every

OUR DEBT TO CHINA IS OUR STEWARDSHIP OF THE SAVING GOSPEL

*Be thou faithful. I will
set thee over many things*

The whole world is agreed in recognizing in the transformation of China one of the greatest movements in human history. This movement, we believe, may become by God's grace, if the Christian Church is faithful, the regeneration of a nation. The time for which we have long worked and prayed, appears to have come at last in a measure and with a momentum beyond our faith, and we rejoice with the Christian agencies at work in China in the unique opportunity which they possess of meeting an inquiring people with the light and life which they are seeking, and of offering to them and to their rulers the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, the one true Leader and King of men.

So great an opportunity as God now offers in China is a sovereign summons. It demands of us the enlargement of our horizons, the expansion of our faith, the acceptance of our duty, and the eager and joyful exercise of our fellowship with Christ in ministering to the need of an awakened nation, and in hastening the coming of His world-wide kingdom by an unprecedented advancement. May the Church in China and in the West be found equal to this opportunity!—*From a Statement by the Committee of Reference and Counsel.*

patient and every pupil will have the gospel preached to them. Of course this work could not be carried on by the foreigners alone, nor would it be hopeful if there was not growing up a body of Chinese to carry it on; so we find no greater encouragement than the fine body of natives who are working with our missionaries. There are fourteen ordained native ministers, sixty-seven preachers and teachers besides the twenty-four women giving their lives to the work as Bible women, matrons and teachers. So by calling some into chapels, schools or hospitals, and by going to others in their villages or markets, by wisely distributing literature everywhere, our missionaries are paying our debt to China and our risen Redeemer.

The prayers of generations of saints have been answered in the opportunity that greets the church to day. Never before has the church been given so splendid an opportunity to pay her debt to the world and her Lord. Never before has the responsibility of His stewards been so heavy. Politically the old China has passed away and a new China enters the family of the nations. In her present plastic state she may be molded to Christianity. Do you not see the great new republic sitting dazed and blinded in the glare of this century's light, groping about for some hand to lead them, listening for some voice to guide them? Do you not see your missionaries and that little army of Chinese Christians day and night working and planning to guard their Christian freedom and pressing the battle to wrest from his false hands the nation that Satan has held so long and which they would win for their King? And can you not hear them as they work shout for the victories won, and cry for help as they see the possibilities of greater victories ahead? Can we not see the Christ bending over His world in anxiety lest His church should miss the opportunity and allow His arch-enemy to again bind that nation as he has held her in superstition and fear until now?

THAT THEY MAY KNOW HIM

This is the day of all days for us to pay our debt to China and her Lord. Will you by your prayers and your gifts fulfill your responsibility and your share of the glory of the Lamb that was slain for the world? Will you give yourself that China may have Christ, and that Christ may have China now? A missionary met a group of people in a village where the gospel had never been preached. After telling something of the story of Jesus and His love he said to them, "You ought to learn about our God and worship Him." "Such a God," they answered, "we want to know and worship. Where can we find out about Him?" They did not even know where there was a Christian or a chapel. Dare we let those to whom we are debtors go on without knowing?

**OUR OPPORTUNITY IS
OUR RESPONSIBILITY**

*Seeing we have this
ministry we faint not*